

From: ["Washburn, Ben" </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE:GROUP \(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT\)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=FDA03CBA30C542059E0AF4208DAD96DA-WASHBURN,BEN>](mailto:Washburn.Ben@EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE:GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=FDA03CBA30C542059E0AF4208DAD96DA-WASHBURN,BEN)  
To:  
CC:  
Date: 1/13/2014 3:45:24 PM  
Subject: OPA Daily Digest 1/13/14

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## OPA Daily Digest for 01/13/14

### Congressional Inquiries:

None

### State Government Inquiries:

None

### Press Inquiries:

**KSDK Channel 5, St. Louis** – Grant Bissell – 1/10/14: Questions about coring and sampling phase of engineering survey at West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

**KMOV Channel 4, St. Louis** – Russell Kinsaul – 1/13/14: Questions about coring and sampling phase of engineering survey at West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

**KMOV Channel 4, St. Louis** – Russell Kinsaul – 1/13/14: Question about Chicago Heights Boulevard Site in St. Louis County, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

### Environmental Stories:

**KSDK Ch. 5 St. Louis - Air monitoring problem reported at landfill** - 1/13/14 - NewsChannel 5 is learning of more problems at the burning Bridgeton Sanitary Landfill. On Friday, we learned equipment used by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources to monitor air around the landfill wasn't working on January 6.  
<http://www.ksdk.com/story/news/2014/01/11/bridgeton-landfill-smell/4428497/>

**St, Louis American - Koster demands more data regarding Bridgeton Landfill** - 1/10/13 - To get a better picture of the Bridgeton Landfill smoldering underground fire, Attorney General Chris Koster has demanded access to carbon monoxide data for the entire landfill. [http://www.stlamerican.com/news/local\\_news/article\\_95501952-7a13-11e3-a731-0019bb2963f4.html](http://www.stlamerican.com/news/local_news/article_95501952-7a13-11e3-a731-0019bb2963f4.html)

**KMOV Ch. 2 St. Louis - EPA testing Bridgeton landfill as concern grows over radioactive waste** - 1/13/14 - Workers with the Environmental Protection Agency will be at the site of the Bridgeton Landfill this week as concern continues to mount an underground fire is moving closer to radioactive material. <http://www.kmov.com/news/local/EPA-testing->

[Bridgeton-landfill-as-concern-grows-over-radioactive-waste-239892471.html](http://www.bridgeton-landfill-as-concern-grows-over-radioactive-waste-239892471.html)

**Missourinet - MU Nuclear Engineering professor calls report of elevated radiation in Missouri snow 'bogus'** - 1/10/14 - A University of Missouri Professor dismisses reports being circulated on social media that say radiation levels in recent snowfall in Missouri are elevated. Professor of Nuclear Engineering Bill Miller says it is "bogus." Firstly, he questions what the writer thinks is a "normal amount of radiation." <http://www.missourinet.com/2014/01/10/mu-nuclear-engineering-professor-calls-report-of-elevated-radiation-in-missouri-snow-bogus/>

**Des Moines Register - Farm Bureau warns: EPA seeks to control all farm, ranch land** - 1/13/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency is moving too aggressively to expand its reach through a rule that would give it "regulatory control of virtually all farm and ranch land," the head of the country's largest farm group said Sunday. <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20140113/BUSINESS01/301130056/>

**Southeast Missourian (Cape Girardeau) - Leaks drain water plant in Morehouse** - 1/13/14 - The boil water order for Morehouse was required by Missouri Department of Natural Resources rules because of a significant drop in volume from distribution system leaks. <http://www.semissourian.com/story/2040775.html>

**WIBW Ch. 13 Topeka, Kan. - Diesel Fuel Cleanup In Creek Depends On Ice Thawing** - 1/11/14 - Clean-up efforts continue over the weekend after a diesel fuel spill in Shunganunga Creek on January 2. <http://www.wibw.com/home/headlines/Diesel-Fuel-Cleanup-In-Creek-Depends-On-Ice-Thawing-239756801.html>

**St. Louis Post-Dispatch - Ameren Missouri plans to build solar energy center** - 1/13/14 - Ameren Missouri said today it will build a multimillion-dollar solar energy facility on a 19-acre site next to its electrical substation in O'Fallon, Mo. [http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/ameren-missouri-plans-to-build-solar-energy-center/article\\_1c4648a9-82f3-55de-92b9-0292b0159818.html](http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/ameren-missouri-plans-to-build-solar-energy-center/article_1c4648a9-82f3-55de-92b9-0292b0159818.html)

**York News-Times (Neb.) - Maintaining commitment to renewable fuels industry** - 1/12/14 - If you feel that we should maintain our commitment to the renewable fuels industry and not send our dollars overseas for imported oil, you can share your comments with the EPA by logging on to NebraskaCorn.org and follow the links to let your voice be heard. [http://www.yorknewstimes.com/editorial/maintaining-commitment-to-renewable-fuels-industry/article\\_e5bfe574-7a87-11e3-8dbc-0019bb2963f4.html](http://www.yorknewstimes.com/editorial/maintaining-commitment-to-renewable-fuels-industry/article_e5bfe574-7a87-11e3-8dbc-0019bb2963f4.html)

**Public News Service - Iowa City's Riverfront Crossings: From Flood Prone to Urban Renewal** - 1/13/14 - Record flooding across the state over the past five years has led to many changes along communities' waterways, including in Iowa City, where Karen Howard is an associate planner. <http://www.publicnewsservice.org/2014-01-13/urban-planning-transportation/iowa-citys-riverfront-crossings-from-flood-prone-to-urban-renewal/a36669-1>

**The Kansan (Newton, Kan.) - Solar powered** - 1/13/14 - Westar Energy is inviting Kansas schools, non-profit organizations and government agencies to submit proposals for solar projects and, for selected projects, the utility will partner with them by providing funds to purchase and install the solar panels. <http://www.thekansan.com/article/20140112/ENTERTAINMENTLIFE/140119961>

**Christian Science Monitor - King Coal is dead. Long live King Coal!** - 1/12/14 - Cheap natural gas and environmental regulations have threatened King Coal's US reign in recent years, but could 2014 be the year coal stages a comeback? <http://www.csmonitor.com/Environment/Energy-Voices/2014/0112/King-Coal-is-dead.-Long-live-King-Coal>

**Associated Press - Iowa Officials Encourage Tree Planting for Better Air Quality** - 1/12/13 - Iowa officials are highlighting the benefits of planting trees, shrubs and native grasses for water quality and wildlife habitat in the state. <http://www.kcrg.com/news/local/iowa-DNR-To-Highlight-Benefits-Of-Trees-Shrubs-239815501.html>

**Daily Times Herald (Carroll, Iowa) - Global bank: Fed ethanol cut could hammer corn prices** - 1/8/14 - The general manager of the POET ethanol plant in Coon Rapids, citing international banking estimates, warned Tuesday of plummeting corn prices this year should an Environmental Protection Agency proposal to weaken the Renewable Fuel Standard become official federal policy. <http://carrollspaper.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&SubSectionID=335&ArticleID=17064>

**Gannett News Service - Congress unlikely to gain enough support to gut country's ethanol mandate** - 1/12/14 - Lawmakers said Congress is unlikely to muster enough support in 2014 to repeal or significantly roll back a controversial measure requiring ethanol to be mixed into the nation's gasoline supply. <http://triblive.com/usworld/nation/5405027->

**Farm Futures - Evaluating Ethanol Profitability** - 1/12/14 - Ethanol continues to be an important topic of discussion in agriculture and on the national level as the market begins to mature. <http://farmfutures.com/story-evaluating-ethanol-profitability-0-107233>

**Cedar Rapids Gazette (Iowa) - EPA should rethink its ethanol stance** - 1/12/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency needs to reassess its stance on ethanol. The EPA is set to change rules that could harm Iowa's families and local economies. I urge the EPA not to cut the Renewable Fuel Standard.  
- See more at: <http://thegazette.com/2014/01/11/epa-should-rethink-its-ethanol-stance/>

**Globe Gazette (Mason City, Iowa) - Elected officials seek hearing on proposed renewable fuels standard changes** - 1/13/14 - Citing national security as well as benefits for clean air, the economy and consumers, Iowa political leaders are urging the Obama administration to come to Iowa to learn more about the impact of its proposed reduction in the renewable fuel standard. [http://globegazette.com/news/local/elected-officials-seek-hearing-on-proposed-renewable-fuels-standard-changes/article\\_423771ae-1519-5056-9f75-0df6f9193f36.html](http://globegazette.com/news/local/elected-officials-seek-hearing-on-proposed-renewable-fuels-standard-changes/article_423771ae-1519-5056-9f75-0df6f9193f36.html)

**The Banner Press (David City, Neb.) - Nebraska Corn Board invites comments on RFS** - 1/12/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to bend to the whims of the oil industry and cut back on the amount of corn ethanol in our nation's fuel supply by 1.4 billion gallons in 2014 as prescribed by the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) passed by Congress. <http://www.kcrg.com/home/top-9/iowans-Asks-for-EPA-Hearing-on-Ethanol-in-Iowa-235677111.html>

**Associated Press - Iowans Asks for EPA Hearing on Ethanol in Iowa** - 1/12/14 - Iowa's governor and the state's entire congressional delegation are asking the Obama administration to hold a hearing in Iowa to discuss the Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce ethanol production in 2014. <http://www.kcrg.com/home/top-9/iowans-Asks-for-EPA-Hearing-on-Ethanol-in-Iowa-235677111.html>

**Kansas City Star - Shaking Kansas: With an increase in earthquakes, many wonder if fracking is the cause** - 1/12/14 - Kansas is one of five states least likely to experience earthquake damage, state officials say. Then last fall, a swarm of tremors shook south-central Kansas sporadically over a couple of months. <http://www.kansascity.com/2014/01/11/4745445/shaking-kansas-with-an-increase.html>

**Argus-Leader (Sioux City, Iowa) - Ethanol mandate unlikely to face repeal** - 1/12/14 - Lawmakers said Congress is unlikely to muster enough support in 2014 to repeal or significantly roll back a controversial measure requiring ethanol to be mixed into the nation's gasoline supply. <http://www.argusleader.com/article/20140112/NEWS/301120019>

**The Gazette (Cedar Rapids, Iowa) - Iowa GOP lawmakers propose limits on eminent domain, Rock Island Clean Line** - 1/10/14 - Three eastern Iowa legislators say they will co-sponsor bills to strengthen Iowans' private property rights by limiting the taking of private property through the use of eminent domain to "public use" purposes. <http://thegazette.com/2014/01/10/iowa-gop-lawmakers-propose-limits-on-eminent-domain-rock-island-clean-line/>

**Des Moines Register - Activist Fallon: Climate change must be weighed in Iowa's road-funding debate** - 1/13/14 - Former state legislator Ed Fallon of Des Moines, a leader of a planned cross-continental march to call attention to climate change, says Iowa's road-funding debate needs more consideration of transportation options to driving cars and trucks. <http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2014/01/13/activist-fallon-climate-change-must-be-weighed-in-iowas-road-funding-debate/>

**Omaha World-Herald - Editorial: Right question on MUD, wrong answer** - 1/12/14 - Credit State Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh for his willingness to tackle some big problems — Omaha's \$2 billion, federally mandated sewer upgrade and the city's pension liabilities. But the senator's proposed solution, selling the Metropolitan Utilities District and divvying up the money, is the wrong answer to the right question. <http://www.neprepzone.com/article/20140112/NEWS08/140119840>

**Kansas City Star - Gas leaks from storage tank at KCK fuel distribution terminal** - 1/12/14 - Emergency crews responded early Sunday afternoon to a large gasoline leak at a Kansas City, Kan., fuel distribution terminal. Authorities reporting to the Magellan Midstream Partners petroleum terminal at 401 E. Donovan Road requested a haz-mat crew upon arrival. <http://www.kansascity.com/2014/01/12/4746883/gas-leaks-from-storage-tank-at.html>

**Associated Press - Keystone's deepening fight spurs move to oil by rail alternative** - 1/11/14 - As the year rolled to a close, Russ Girling, chief executive officer of TransCanada Corp., repeated on television what he has often said: He's "very confident" that President Obama will approve the Keystone XL pipeline. But people have been saying that for years. [http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/keystone-s-deepening-fight-spurs-move-to-oil-by-rail/article\\_5fb9616b-fac0-53fd-ba3c-c42b08bd727b.html](http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/keystone-s-deepening-fight-spurs-move-to-oil-by-rail/article_5fb9616b-fac0-53fd-ba3c-c42b08bd727b.html)

**Des Moines Register - Energy audit can help cut chills, bills** - 1/11/14 - Bitter cold January temperatures have homeowners cranking up thermostats — and sweating the higher heating bills that are on the way. MidAmerican Energy, for example, set a record Monday for natural gas usage. <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20140111/BUSINESS/301110107/1029/>

**Des Moines Register - Biotech crop opponents slowing federal approval** - 1/12/14 - The opposition to biotech crops is slowing the approval by U.S. regulators of new genetically modified products that is hurting farmers, an official with a trade group representing seed manufacturers said Sunday. <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20140113/BUSINESS01/301130027/1029/>

**Des Moines Register - Farm Bureau warns: EPA seeks to control all farm, ranch land** - 1/13/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency is moving too aggressively to expand its reach through a rule that would give it "regulatory control of virtually all farm and ranch land," the head of the country's largest farm group said Sunday. <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20140113/BUSINESS01/301130056/0/NEWS01/>

**National Hog Farmer - Iowa Offers Dry Manure Applicator Certification Workshops** - 1/10/14 - Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, in cooperation with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR), will offer manure applicator certification workshops for dry/solid manure operators at eight locations in Iowa during February. <http://nationalhogfarmer.com/environment/iowa-offers-dry-manure-applicator-certification-workshops>

**Associated Press - Group announces intent to sue EPA over particulate** - 1/10/13 - An environmental group has given formal notice it intends to sue the federal government over the failure to enforce laws on particulate pollution in Alaska, Washington, Iowa and Puerto Rico. <http://www.kwwl.com/story/24417378/group-announces-intent-to-sue-epa-over-particulate>

**Upper Missouri Waterkeeper (blog) - Comments to EPA on Proposed WQS Revisions** - 1/6/14 - On January 2, 2014 we joined Waterkeeper Alliance in submitting this Water Quality Standards Comment Letter to EPA. <http://www.uppermissouriwaterkeeper.org/comments-to-epa-on-proposed-wqs-revisions/>

**Daily Caller - Republicans use unemployment extension bill to thwart EPA** - 1/9/14 - Senate Republicans have introduced an amendment to prevent the Environmental Protection Agency from finalizing any new regulations until it publicly reports the economic impacts of existing clean air regulations. <http://dailycaller.com/2014/01/09/republicans-use-unemployment-extension-bill-to-thwart-epa/>

**The Weather Channel - New EPA Rule Is First Ever To Limit Carbon Emissions From New Power Plants** - 1/10/14 - In a move that advances one of the key goals President Obama outlined in his Climate Action Plan last June, the Environmental Protection Agency published a new rule this week with the first-ever federal limits on carbon emissions from newly constructed power plants. <http://www.weather.com/news/science/environment/new-epa-rule-first-ever-limit-carbon-emissions-new-power-plants-20140109>

**Midwest Energy News - Study: Air travel outpacing driving in fuel efficiency gains** - 1/13/14 - Conventional wisdom says that driving a relatively fuel-efficient car is usually better for the environment than flying. That may no longer be the case, though, according to new calculations from the University of Michigan's Transportation Research Institute. <http://www.midwestenergynews.com/2014/01/13/study-air-travel-outpacing-driving-on-fuel-efficiency-gains/>

**Los Angeles Times - After a building boom, solar energy's prospects now aren't as sunny** - 1/11/13 - The pace of solar development has slowed to a crawl, with a number of companies going out of business and major projects canceled. <http://www.latimes.com/local/la-me-adv-solar-slowdown-2-20140112.0.3755073.story>

**Yale Environment 360 - Natural Gas Has Sharply Reduced Emissions from Power Plants** - 1/10/14 - The dramatic increase in using natural gas to produce electricity in the United States has led to an equally dramatic decline in the amount of pollutants and carbon dioxide emitted from the nation's power plants, according to a new study. [http://e360.yale.edu/digest/natural\\_gas\\_has\\_sharply\\_reduced\\_emissions\\_from\\_power\\_plants/4044/](http://e360.yale.edu/digest/natural_gas_has_sharply_reduced_emissions_from_power_plants/4044/)

**Environmental Leader - Oil and Gas Operators Face Updated VOC Emissions Laws** - 1/10/14 - Cryogenic condensation can be a safe and cost effective way for oil and gas operators to reduce emissions of volatile organic compounds to meet new EPA regulations, according to a white paper by Linde Group.

<http://www.environmentalleader.com/2014/01/10/oil-and-gas-operators-face-updated-voc-emissions-laws/>

**Environmental Leader - Report: Combined-Cycle Plants Release Far Less CO2 Than Coal** - 1/10/14 - Power plants that use natural gas and a new technology to squeeze more energy from the fuel release far less CO2 than coal-fired power plants do, according to research by NOAA and the University of Colorado, Boulder.

<http://www.environmentalleader.com/2014/01/10/report-combined-cycle-plants-release-far-less-co2-than-coal/>

**Business Journals - Blame it on coal: Carbon emissions up again in U.S.** - 1/13/14 - After two years of decreases, energy-related carbon emissions ticked up 2 percent in 2013 thanks to an increase in coal consumption by electric utilities. <http://www.bizjournals.com/bizjournals/washingtonbureau/2014/01/13/blame-it-on-coal-carbon-emissions-up.html>

**Greenwire - GOP's conflict-of-interest charge surprised EPA staff** - 1/10/14 - U.S. EPA staff involved in writing the newly published carbon dioxide rule for future power plants did not anticipate House Republicans' charge that its mandate for coal-fired power plants violates a 2005 energy law, according to internal emails released by the agency this week as part of the rule's docket. <http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1059992729/>

**Christian Science Monitor - Fracking for an energy renaissance that will not come** - 1/12/14 - The hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling used to extract oil from shale deposits is supposed to glut the world with oil and drive down the price. The record so far is not compelling, Cobb writes, and talk of an American energy renaissance is essentially baseless. <http://www.csmonitor.com/Environment/Energy-Voices/2014/0112/Fracking-for-an-energy-renaissance-that-will-not-come>

**Climate Central - Trains Will Still Move Oil Despite Wrecks, Keystone XL** - 1/13/14 - Shale oil's other hazards, however, have begun to capture far more attention. That's because recent train derailments have made painfully clear the dangers of just getting that oil to refineries. <http://www.climatecentral.org/news/oil-train-disasters-16946>

**Environmental Leader - A Commitment to Action: Taking Recycling to the Next Level in the United States** - 1/13/14 - When asked why recycling is so important, my response is simple: it is integral to business. Recycling is a fundamental requirement to uphold competitiveness and reputation as responsible and innovative companies.

<http://www.environmentalleader.com/2014/01/13/a-commitment-to-action-taking-recycling-to-the-next-level-in-the-united-states/>

**Environmental Health Perspectives - Wind Turbines: A Different Breed of Noise?** - 1/13/14 - Although investigators may not know the exact nature of the relationship between noise and health impacts, or why noise affects some people differently than others, the evidence to date suggests that environmental noise pollution can have serious implications for public health. <http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/122-A20/>

**Salon - Big Ag's big lie: Factory farms, your health and the new politics of antibiotics** - 1/12/14 - The science only gets clearer: Factory farms are accelerating an antibiotics nightmare and political ties are helping it happen, [http://www.salon.com/2014/01/12/big\\_ag\\_s\\_big\\_lie\\_factory\\_farms\\_your\\_health\\_and\\_the\\_new\\_politics\\_of\\_antibiotics/](http://www.salon.com/2014/01/12/big_ag_s_big_lie_factory_farms_your_health_and_the_new_politics_of_antibiotics/)

**BNA - EPA Considering Changes to Monsanto Field Tests** - 1/10/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency is considering a request by Monsanto Corp. to amend its planned field tests for plant-incorporated protectant (PIP) corn that contains bacillus thuringiensis (Bt) proteins. [http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=39803785&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e4z2x8e6&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=39803785&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e4z2x8e6&split=0)

[http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=39803785&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e4z2x8e6&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=39803785&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e4z2x8e6&split=0)

**BNA - Natural Gas Responsible for Reductions In Power Plant Emissions, Study Finds** - 1/10/14 - Power plants using natural gas and a new technology to get more energy from the fuel release far lower amounts of carbon dioxide than coal-fired plants, according to a new study. [http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=39803805&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e4z6d4f0&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=39803805&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e4z6d4f0&split=0)

[http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=39803805&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e4z6d4f0&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=39803805&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e4z6d4f0&split=0)

**BNA - EPA Gets Time to File Brief Appealing Nutrient Ruling** - 1/10/14 - An appeals court has given the Environmental Protection Agency until Feb. 20 to file its opening brief to appeal a lower court decision requiring the agency to determine within six months whether states need to adopt numeric nutrient criteria in the Mississippi River Basin.

[http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=39803812&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e4z6w4e4&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=39803812&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e4z6w4e4&split=0)



**BNA - EPA Assertions on Carbon Capture Viability Sparked Concerns by White House Officials** - 1/10/14 - White House officials expressed concerns about the EPA's assertions regarding carbon capture and sequestration in a proposed rule for new power plants, according to newly released documents.

[http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=39803782&vname=dennotlatest&fcn=12&wsn=500058000&fn=39803782&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=39803782&vname=dennotlatest&fcn=12&wsn=500058000&fn=39803782&split=0)

**BNA - EPA Science Advisers Say Review Of Power Plant Rule Not Needed** - 1/10/14 - A review of carbon dioxide standards for new fossil fuel-fired power plants by the Environmental Protection Agency's Science Advisory Board "would not provide additional benefit to the proposed rule," a group of independent science advisers said in a Jan. 7 memorandum sent to the board. [http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=39803789&vname=dennotlatest&fcn=3&wsn=500060000&fn=39803789&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=39803789&vname=dennotlatest&fcn=3&wsn=500060000&fn=39803789&split=0)

**Inside EPA - Obama Urged To Cut Delays In OMB Rule Reviews** - 1/13/14 - Progressive groups are urging President Obama to implement "fundamental reform" to boost transparency and end delays in White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) reviews of EPA and other agencies' rules. <http://insideepa.com/201401102457816/EPA-Blog/The-Inside-Story/obama-urged-to-cut-delays-in-omb-rule-reviews/menu-id-97.html>

**Inside EPA - Advocates Eye Litigation, EPA Regulation To Tighten Landfill Air Controls** - 1/13/14 - Environmentalists are aiming to secure new air pollution controls on landfills by pursuing Clean Air Act violation suits against facilities they say are not taking adequate steps to cut emissions. <http://insideepa.com/201401102457808/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/advocates-eye-litigation-epa-regulation-to-tighten-landfill-air-controls/menu-id-95.html>

**Inside EPA - EPA GHG Rules Critics Seek Lengthier High Court Arguments** - 1/13/14 - Industry and state opponents of EPA's stationary source greenhouse gas (GHG) permitting rules are asking the Supreme Court to grant them more time than currently scheduled for oral arguments. <http://insideepa.com/201401102457842/EPA-Blog/The-Inside-Story/epa-ghg-rule-critics-seek-lengthier-high-court-arguments/menu-id-97.html>

**Inside EPA - Republican Bid To Block Climate NSPS Could Delay EPA FY14 Budget Bill** - 1/13/14 - Republicans have sought to attach a legislative rider that would block EPA from finalizing its utility climate rules to a fiscal year 2014 omnibus spending bill, and the fight over the amendment is raising prospects of delays in Congress moving the funding legislation and resolving long-running uncertainty over the agency's budget. <http://insideepa.com/Water-Policy-Report/Water-Policy-Report-01/13/2014/republican-bid-to-block-climate-nspc-could-delay-epa-fy14-budget-bill/menu-id-127.html>

**Inside EPA - Water Quality Focus Shifts From Nutrients To Toxics, Testing Key Issues** - 1/13/14 - Under pressure from environmentalists and others, water quality regulators are beginning to shift their focus from the thorny issue of addressing nutrients to the long dormant issue of strengthening water quality standards for toxics. <http://insideepa.com/Water-Policy-Report/Water-Policy-Report-01/13/2014/water-quality-focus-shifts-from-nutrients-to-toxics-testing-key-issues/menu-id-127.html>

**Inside EPA - EPA Aims To Bolster NSPS' Claim Of Low Interest In Future Coal Utilities** - 1/13/14 - EPA is trying to bolster its claim in its proposed climate rule for new power plants that there is minimal industry interest in building new coal-fired utilities through 2020 even if the agency's plan to require carbon capture at the facilities did not exist. <http://insideepa.com/201401102457945/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/epa-aims-to-bolster-nspc-claim-of-low-interest-in-future-coal-utilities/menu-id-95.html>

**Inside EPA - EPW Schedules Hearing On Obama's Climate Action Plan** - 1/13/14 - The Senate environment committee has announced that it will hold a long-awaited hearing Jan. 16 on President Obama's Climate Action Plan. <http://insideepa.com/201401102457829/EPA-Blog/The-Inside-Story/epw-schedules-hearing-on-obamas-climate-action-plan/menu-id-97.html>

**Inside EPA - Advocates Eye Litigation, EPA Regulation To Tighten Landfill Air Controls** - 1/13/14 - Environmentalists are aiming to secure new air pollution controls on landfills by pursuing Clean Air Act violation suits against facilities they say are not taking adequate steps to cut emissions. <http://insideepa.com/201401102457808/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/advocates-eye-litigation-epa-regulation-to-tighten-landfill-air-controls/menu-id-95.html>

**Inside EPA - OMB Said To Seek EPA Clarity On When Waters Have 'Significant' Nexus** - 1/13/14 - White House budget officials are reportedly asking EPA to clarify whether the "significance" of a connection, or nexus, between smaller waterbodies and larger downstream waters marks a technical or policy issue. <http://insideepa.com/201401132457970/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/omb-said-to-seek-epa-clarity-on-when-waters-have-significant-nexus/menu-id-95.html>

**Inside EPA - Sierra Club Files First Suit Over EPA Permit Rejecting CCS As GHG Control** - 1/13/14 - The Sierra Club is pursuing a first-time EPA Environmental Appeals Board (EAB) challenge to an agency-issued air permit for not mandating carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) as a greenhouse gas (GHG) control strategy.

<http://insideepa.com/201401132457969/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/sierra-club-files-first-suit-over-epa-permit-rejecting-ccs-as-ghg-control/menu-id-95.html>

**Inside EPA - EPA Faces Struggle To Credit Demand-Side Efficiency In Utility Climate Rule** - 1/13/14 - EPA faces significant hurdles in granting requests by states and some industry representatives to credit demand-side energy efficiency efforts in its pending landmark rule for existing power plants.

<http://cleanenergyreport.com/201401132457966/Clean-Energy-Report-Daily-News/News/epa-faces-struggle-to-credit-demand-side-efficiency-in-utility-climate-rule/menu-id-202.html>

### **Press Releases:**

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

None

### **Fact Sheets:**

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

### **Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:**

\* New additions noted with an asterisk

**1/15/14** - 2013 CFC Awards Breakfast, Kansas City, Mo., Julia Cacho, 7071

**1/17/14** - Meeting with U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Col. Sexton, Kansas City, Mo, Ron Hammerschmidt, 7566

**1/16/14** – COOP Drill, Regional Office, Chris Taylor, 7736

**1/16/13** – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Training Event, Kansas City, Kan., Greg Davis

**1/17/14** – Meet and greet with new HUD Regional Director, Jennifer Tidwell, Regional Office, Kerry Herndon, 7286

**2/5/13** – Regional Tribal Operations Committee, Lenexa, Kan., Wolfgang Brandner, 7381

**2/11/13** – Agribusiness Showcase Conference, Des Moines, Kris Lancaster, 7557

**\*2/12/13** – Iowa Legislation Availability Session, Des Moines. Sarah Hatch, 7199

**2/20/13** – Air & Waste Management Association Mid-West Chapter Annual Conference, Overland Park, Kan., Becky Weber, 7487

### **DRA:**

**1/16/14** – COOP Drill, Kansas City, Mo., Chris Taylor, 7736

**1/17/14** – Meet and greet with new HUD Regional Director, Jennifer Tidwell, Regional Office, Kerry Herndon, 7286

**2/5/13** – Regional Tribal Operations Committee, Lenexa, Kan., Wolfgang Brandner, 7381

**RA/Immediate Office**

None

**Other Events**

**AWMD**

None

**CNSL**

None

**ECO/EJ**

None

**ENSV**

None

**PLMG**

**\*1/15/14** – Federal Executive Board HR Committee Meeting, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Tina Palmerin, 7572.

**RA/OPA**

None

**SUPR**

**\*1/13 - 14/14** - Light & Power Former Manufactured Gas Plant Site oversight, Norfolk, Neb. Contact: Owens Hull, 7226.

**WWPD**

**1/16/14** – Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule Presentation, Columbia area contractors, Columbia, Mo. Contact: Tom Brick, 7913

**1/17/14** – Technical assistance to Missouri Department of Natural Resources on water program databases, Jefferson City, Mo. Contacts: Michael Boeglin, 7252, Neil Gilbert, 7985.

**1/21-24/14** – Groundwater Protection Council Training Conference, New Orleans, La. Contact: David Garrett, 7159